

10/1/78
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Reappearance Reports

A large number of stories about the reappearance of disappeared persons reappearing as military prisoners recognized in established penal facilities are circulating widely in Buenos Aires. Dr. Bicentini, a member of the Permanent Assembly, reports that he personally spoke to one of the formerly disappeared persons during his visit to his incarcerated son in La Plata Prison in late October. According to the young man who Dr. Bicentini interviewed, he had been held blindfolded in a clandestine facility in ^{the} Quilmes Banfield area outside of the capital of Buenos Aires with several hundred persons. He and a group of 23 other prisoners were taken from the detention facility to a hospital for a month recovery period before being transferred to La Plata Prison

where they were charged by the military courts. The young man reported that a number of the prisoners in the clandestine facility had lost their eyesight due to the months of being blindfolded and many other had "lost their minds".

In addition to this secondhand report the Embassy has received nearly a dozen similar reports during the last 10 days. Reports range from the 24/^{male}aparecidos in La Plata to 60 reappeared women in Villa Devoto to "over 200" returned prisoners in La Plata.

COMMENT: As yet we have no confirmation of these large number of reappearances. Previous experience has shown that numbers both positive and negative tend to be exaggerated within the human rights community. However, the strength and the large number of similar reports are encouraging signs that there have been multiple reappearances in the past few weeks.
END COMMENT.

In addition to the reports of multiple reappearances

the Embassy has received a report that ^{Daniel Victor} /_____ Antokoletz

(78/77/7) a US high interest case was reported

to be alive in September, 1978. Antokoletz disappeared on

August 1, 1977 and his family received information from a

released prisoner that their son was alive and being held

captive by the security forces.

Reappearances Add

The Embassy has received confirmation from Cecelia Appel that her son Enrique Appel (50378/8) who was abducted on July 13, 1978 in Buenos Aires has been freed. The Embassy has also received unconfirmed reports that Roldolfo Francisco Nannni (520/78/9) and Juan Carlos Barrera have both reappeared.